

Peterson, Cynthia

From: Joyce Ackerman [Ackerman.Joyce@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2013 10:02 AM
To: Peterson, Cynthia
Subject: Fw: Slawson Update (UNCLASSIFIED)

Joyce Ackerman, On-Scene Coordinator
EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202
Phone: 303-312-6822

----- Forwarded by Joyce Ackerman/R8/USEPA/US on 03/11/2013 10:02 AM -----

From: "Roberts, Kris D." <kroberts@nd.gov>
To: "Harlon, William D III NWO" <William.D.Harlon@usace.army.mil>
Cc: "Glatt, Dave D." <dglatt@nd.gov>, "Fewless, Dennis R." <dfewless@nd.gov>, Curtis Kimbel/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Joyce Ackerman/R8/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 12/30/2012 10:37 AM
Subject: RE: Slawson Update (UNCLASSIFIED)

Will:

1) yes, I would like that shape file, and any others you and Ryan generated on this one. I received a couple maps of prospective burn/spray areas from NDGF. Did you receive them as well?

2) As to the sample parameters and analyses. www.fracfocus.org is behind in their posting of fracs coming in. Neither of the Lunker wells are up on the site yet. So I called Lyle back on Thursday afternoon, and he is going to have the Denver office send us what they sent to Frac Focus, as well as the contacts for the 2 different companies that fraced the 2 Lunker wells. Hope that comes in tomorrow.

3) I stopped at the location on Wednesday. They are mostly, now, melting down the collected impact snow in the open topped frac tank. They thought that would be done yesterday. I checked only on the road down from the corner into Corp land. They have the hay filter barriers above and below that road, and made them fairly thick and long in case water flow comes up higher than expected. Looked good. I also got some photos from Kent (NDGF) of the snow removal from the back bay ice. Looked good. Did he send them to you as well?

From all that, I assume the rest of the filter barriers are in place. In fact, I think Kyle told me that they are.

Kris Roberts
Div. of Water Quality
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-----Original Message-----

From: Harlon, William D III NWO [<mailto:William.D.Harlon@usace.army.mil>]
Sent: Friday, December 28, 2012 12:50 PM
To: Roberts, Kris D.
Subject: Slawson Update (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

Kris,

Have you heard any updates regarding recovery efforts on Corps property adjacent to the Slawson oil blowout site? Also, do you have any idea when frac fluid analysis and/or sample analytical results will be available?

As a side note, I have the sample coordinates that you provided prior to Christmas compiled into a GIS shapefile. Please let me know if you're interested and I would be glad to share that file with you. Thanks, Will

William Harlon, RF
Environmental Protection Specialist
Garrison Project
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Mobile: (701) 220-2867

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Peterson, Cynthia

From: Joyce Ackerman [Ackerman.Joyce@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2013 10:03 AM
To: Peterson, Cynthia
Subject: Fw: Slawson Update (UNCLASSIFIED)

Joyce Ackerman, On-Scene Coordinator
EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202
Phone: 303-312-6822

----- Forwarded by Joyce Ackerman/R8/USEPA/US on 03/11/2013 10:02 AM -----

From: Joyce Ackerman/R8/USEPA/US
To: "Roberts, Kris D." <kroberts@nd.gov>
Cc: "Fewless, Dennis R." <dfewless@nd.gov>, "Glatt, Dave D." <dglatt@nd.gov>
Date: 12/31/2012 11:47 AM
Subject: RE: Slawson Update (UNCLASSIFIED)

Hi Kris (and everybody) - It sounds like the cleanup efforts are going well, and I appreciate the detailed information you've provided. I think we all just acted on the best information that was available at the time (and that information was gathered by you trudging through the snow!). As you know, EPA's authority for oil spills comes from the Clean Water Act and Oil Pollution Act, and we are limited to spills that threaten surface water. If there are non-petroleum fracking chemicals that get spilled, that might push us into a CERCLA response (Superfund), and we could address contamination on land if it was posing a threat to human health or the environment.

Regarding U.S. Fish & Wildlife, of course they have their own authorities such as the Endangered Species Act and can respond independently of EPA. I think what Jessica was referring to is a "Pollution Removal Funding Authorization (PRFA)." This is when the EPA decides to issue funding (via the National Pollution Fund Center run by the Coast Guard in Washington D.C.) to a local, state or federal agency to assist EPA in an oil spill response. The other agency basically acts as EPA's contractor. This is part of the Oil Pollution Act, so it can only be used for oil spills that threaten surface water and only at EPA's discretion. The EPA OSC writes a scope of work for the other agency to follow. The other agency cannot operate independently with that funding. I'm sure this is way more information than you wanted, but you might be interested in case EPA and NDDOH want to do a PRFA together for an oil spill. I remember that I did one with the local fire department in Grand Forks for that asphalt leak in the Red River several years ago. The fire department didn't do a great job of submitting documentation to the Coast Guard for their expenses, but I believe they did eventually get reimbursed.

I am always available to talk about what EPA can and can't do, and I have always enjoyed working with you folks. Let me know of any questions/issues/concerns.

Happy New Year!

Joyce Ackerman, On-Scene Coordinator
EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop St.
Denver, CO 80202
Phone: 303-312-6822

▼ "Roberts, Kris D." ---12/31/2012 10:10:11 AM---You're welcome. I just wish now, that I had asked you to come up originally. It probably would hav

From: "Roberts, Kris D." <kroberts@nd.gov>
To: Joyce Ackerman/R8/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: "Fewless, Dennis R." <dfewless@nd.gov>, "Glatt, Dave D." <dglatt@nd.gov>
Date: 12/31/2012 10:10 AM
Subject: RE: Slawson Update (UNCLASSIFIED)

You're welcome. I just wish now, that I had asked you to come up originally. It probably would have helped with the subsequent issues of all the agencies involved. Problem was that, at the time, I didn't know that the mist plume had gotten all the way to Lake Sakakawea. I had tracked it out to the lee side of a few trees in a little copse, and lost the trail. Apparently I was in a wind shadow created by the copse.

I have since talked with Jessica Johnson, Contaminant Specialist, with USFWS. Apparently there is some kind of policy/agreement between FWS and EPA that after 16 hours of contact work on a release such as this, that FWS is supposed to ask EPA for reimbursement. Now, we talked while I was driving, so there is no guarantee that I got that right, but that may explain what happened, that was pointing you folks back at the Van Hook well control incident.

We are waiting for the name of the frac company that did the Lunker2, and the recipe they used. Apparently www.fracfocus.org doesn't have staff to keep up with all that is coming in, and consequently neither of the Lunker wells frac data is up on the web yet. I have a request in to the company, as of Thursday, to send us the name, and the information that they sent in to fracfocus. I've been watching my e-mails, but haven't gotten anything yet. In the meantime, all 5 of my samples are in the lab freezer (soil and snow) waiting for that info.

Keep in touch, we may not be out of the woods on this yet. We have USFWS, ND Game and Fish, US BLM, Tribal Energy Office, and Tribal Environmental all looking over our and each other's shoulders.

Kris Roberts
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From: Ackerman.Joyce@epamail.epa.gov [<mailto:Ackerman.Joyce@epamail.epa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, December 31, 2012 10:14 AM
To: Roberts, Kris D.
Subject: RE: Slawson Update (UNCLASSIFIED)

Hi Kris - Thanks for including us in the updates!

Joyce

Joyce Ackerman, On-Scene Coordinator
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Phone: 303-312-6822

Peterson, Cynthia

From: Schuller, Jennifer
Sent: Friday, March 08, 2013 12:36 PM
To: Peterson, Cynthia
Subject: Update on Oil Well Blowout Within Boundaries of Ft. Berthold Reservation, ND
Attachments: Crude in footsteps.PNG; Crude strata on ice on Lake Skakawea.PNG; Garrison Project Boundary.PNG; Location of Blow-Out.PNG; Update Report.docx

----- Forwarded by Jennifer Schuller/R8/USEPA/US on 03/08/2013 12:35 PM -----

From: Duc Nguyen/R8/USEPA/US
To: R8 OSC Dispatcher
Date: 12/20/2012 05:17 PM
Subject: Update on Oil Well Blowout Within Boundaries of Ft. Berthold Reservation, ND

SLAWSON

Hi All:

On December 12th, 2012, an oil well owned and operated by Slawson Oil Company experienced a "blowout" due to an equipment malfunction. This oil well is located in New Town, Mountrail County, ND. Approximately 800 barrels of Bakken crude and salt water mixture was released into the environment and largely localized around the well pad.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Happy Holidays!

Duc Nguyen
On-Scene Coordinator (OSC)
Emergency Response Unit

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1595 Wynkoop St. (8EPR-SA)
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Jennifer Schuller
Team Lead, UIC/OPA Enforcement Teams
EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop St. (8ENF-UFO)
Denver, CO 80202-1129
303-312-6334

Date: 12/20/2012 05:17 PM

Subject: Update on Oil Well Blowout Within Boundaries of Ft. Berthold Reservation, ND

Hi All:

On December 12th, 2012, an oil well owned and operated by Slawson Oil Company experienced a "blowout" due to an equipment malfunction. This oil well is located in New Town, Mountrail County, ND. Approximately 800 barrels of Bakken crude and salt water mixture was released into the environment and largely localized around the well pad.

(See attached file: Garrison Project Boundary.PNG)(See attached file: Location of Blow-Out.PNG)(See attached file: Crude in footsteps.PNG)(See attached file: Crude strata on ice on Lake Skakawea.PNG)

(See attached file: Update Report.docx)

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

Happy Holidays!

Duc Nguyen
On-Scene Coordinator (OSC)
Emergency Response Unit

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1595 Wynkoop St. (8EPR-SA)
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[attachment "Garrison Project Boundary.PNG" removed by Gwen Campbell/R8/USEPA/US]

[attachment "Location of Blow-Out.PNG" removed by Gwen Campbell/R8/USEPA/US]

[attachment "Crude in footsteps.PNG" removed by Gwen Campbell/R8/USEPA/US]

[attachment "Crude strata on ice on Lake Skakawea.PNG" removed by Gwen Campbell/R8/USEPA/US]

[attachment "Update Report.docx" removed by Gwen Campbell/R8/USEPA/US]

Peterson, Cynthia

From: Jennifer Schuller [Schuller.Jennifer@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 08, 2013 12:31 PM
To: Peterson, Cynthia
Subject: Fw: Update on Oil Well Blowout Within Boundaries of Ft. Berthold Reservation, ND

After reviewing these emails, please let me know if you need any additional information! Thanks,

Jennifer Schuller
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Denver, Colorado 80202-1129
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Fax: 303.312.6952

----- Forwarded by Jennifer Schuller/R8/USEPA/US on 03/08/2013 12:30 PM -----

From: Gwen Campbell/R8/USEPA/US
To: Jennifer Schuller/R8/USEPA/US
Date: 12/21/2012 10:22 AM
Subject: Re: Fw: Update on Oil Well Blowout Within Boundaries of Ft. Berthold Reservation, ND

Jen, I am out today sick. I also think Emilio is out. It sounds like OSCs are involved and a number of other state and federal entities to ensure the spill is cleaned up. We think it is on tribal land. Emilio is thinking that there may not be much for NPDES to do right except monitor the situation and provide assistance if needed. We both thought the OPA folks may be interested.

-----Jennifer Schuller/R8/USEPA/US wrote: -----
To: Gwen Campbell/R8/USEPA/US@EPA
From: Jennifer Schuller/R8/USEPA/US
Date: 12/20/2012 05:26PM
Cc: Darcy Oconnor/R8/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject: Fw: Update on Oil Well Blowout Within Boundaries of Ft. Berthold Reservation, ND

Gwen - FYI. Let's chat tomorrow regarding the information you provided earlier today.

Thanks!

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----- Forwarded by Jennifer Schuller/R8/USEPA/US on 12/20/2012 05:25 PM -----

From: Duc Nguyen/R8/USEPA/US
To: R8 OSC Dispatcher

UPDATE ON OIL WELL BLOWOUT WITHIN BOUNDARIES OF FT. BERTHOLD RESERVATION, NORTH

DAKOTA: On December 12th, 2012, an oil well experienced a blowout resulting in a spray or mist of Bakken crude oil and salt water. The well was brought under control early on December 14th. Initial reports from the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDOH) indicated that no oil was draining to Lake Sakakawea which is approximately ½ mile away from the well. The oil spray was later determined to have impacted land administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), private agricultural land on the reservation (fee land), and some oil spray was seen on the snow and ice of the lake (photos available). A number of agencies have been on-scene directing the responsible party on clean-up of the spill and are developing a monitoring plan for the spring season. Cleanup efforts include removing impacted snow from the lake surface where it is safe to do so. Agencies include NDDOH, COE, the Tribal Energy department, North Dakota Game and Fish, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife. Because initial reports indicated no threat to navigable waters of the U.S. (as required by the Clean Water Act), EPA Region 8 did not deploy an OSC to the incident. The Emergency Response Unit is monitoring the situation; receiving reports from agencies at the spill site, and will review the remediation plan from the responsible party.

CONTACT: Duc Nguyen, 312-6509